

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 090639 POSS DUPE
ORIGIN EUR-12

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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:NGANDREWS:TL
APPROVED BY EUR:JAARMITAGE
USIA:LSLAWECKI
VOA:BUMBESTI (SUBSTANCE)
H:KJENKINS (INFO)
AID/OFDA:WDALTON (SUBST)
AID/NEA:STAUBENBLATT (SUBST)
-----220221Z 056315 /70
O 220013Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

AGS:EAID, SOPN, RO

SUBJECT: PUBLICITY FOR US AID TO ROMANIA

1. AS OUR EFFORTS TO OBTAIN \$20 MILLION IN APPROPRIATIONS FOR EARTHQUAKE REHABILITATION GET UNDER WAY, WE BELIEVE IT WILL BE MOST HELPFUL IN OUR CONTACTS ON THE HILL TO BE ABLE TO POINT TO THE CONTINUING FAVORABLE PUBLICITY WHICH THE ROMANIANS ARE GIVING TO US RELIEF AND TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE ROMANIAN PEOPLE ARE AWARE OF THESE EFFORTS. THIS IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT AT A TIME WHEN THE GOR HAS TAKEN A HARDER STAND AGAINST DISSIDENTS (GOMA, GEORGESCU AND BAPTISTS), HAS ATTACKED US IN THE PRESS, HAS A POOR RECORD IN APPROVING US-ROMANIAN MARRIAGE APPLICATIONS AND A LESS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAN SATISFACTORY STATISTICAL RECORD ON DEPARTURES FOR ISRAEL, ETC. WE NOTE THAT ROMANIAN PRESS GAVE GOOD COVERAGE TO CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON THE \$20 MILLION AUTHORIZATION, AND WE WOULD LIKE TO BUILD ON THAT AND ON EARLIER COVERAGE OF US EMERGENCY RELIEF ASSISTANCE.

2. WE BELIEVE EMBASSY SHOULD HIGHLIGHT AS FAR AS POSSIBLE

THE PRESIDENT'S SIGNATURE OF THE ROMANIAN EARTHQUAKE REHABILITATION ACT AND ON THE CONGRESSIONAL STRESS THAT THIS ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE FOCUSED ON HUMANITARIAN CONCERNS. IN ADDITION, EMBASSY MAY NOTE PAST VISITS OF GROUPS

OF US EXPERTS (SEISMOLOGISTS, STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS, CONSTRUCTION EXPERTS, ETC.) AND PUBLICIZE TEAM OF AID EXPERTS ARRIVING FOR PRELIMINARY TALKS WITH GOR ON HOW TO ALLOCATE US ASSISTANCE. WE HOPE EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF ROMANIAN MEDIA THE ACTIVITIES IN WHICH WE ARE ENGAGED AND THE EFFORTS WE ARE MAKING BOTH AS A GOVERNMENT AND THROUGH PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS (AMERICAN-ROMANIAN EARTHQUAKE RELIEF, FOR EXAMPLE). WE WILL TRY TO PROVIDE YOU WITH UPDATED INFO ON PRIVATE SECTOR ACTIVITIES.

3. DEPARTMENT IS COORDINATING WITH VOA AND RFE TO ENSURE FULL COVERAGE OF US ASSISTANCE.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE SIGNIFICANT EXAMPLES OF ROMANIAN PRESS COVERAGE AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE. POST SHOULD ALSO USE USINFO CHANNEL TO REPORT THIS INFORMATION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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